

LACDMH WINS TOP TEN AND MEGA MILLION AWARDS

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The Los Angeles County *Quality and Productivity Commission* (QPC) has announced two efforts led by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) as winners in major categories for the Commission's *26th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards Program, "Investing in a Quality Future"*. In addition, LACDMH was a collaborator in three other winning efforts.

The *LAC+USC Medical Center Street to Home Project*, an LACDMH-led effort in collaboration with the First District, Chief Executive Office, Health Services, Public Health, Public Social Services, County Counsel and Sheriff was selected for the *Top Ten Award* which is given to the 10 most impressive entries. This makes the project eligible for the highest level of honor bestowed by QPC, namely the Gold, Silver and Bronze Eagle awards. The *Street to Home Project* provides outreach, engagement and eventual placement in supported, permanent housing for unsheltered, chronically homeless and vulnerable individuals living on and around the campus of the LAC+USC Medical Center. The project has redirected 40 homeless individuals to Exodus Urgent Care Center for integrated treatment of physical health, mental health and substance abuse issues and linkage to ongoing primary and mental health care.

The *Mental Health Services Act Housing Program*, another LACDMH-led effort, was the sole winner of the *Mega Million Dollar Award*, which is given to the top program that reported the most cost benefit. By strategically leveraging local, state and federal funding, the *Housing Program* was able to maximize LACDMH's investment of \$115 million in *Mental Health Services Act* funding into a \$551 million pool for the development of permanent supportive housing (PSH). In collaboration with L.A. County's Chief Executive Office, Board of Supervisors and stakeholders, the *Housing Program* engaged 21 private housing developers for 33 new PSH projects that will create 729 apartments for clients and their families. The Community Development Commission collaborated on some of the PSH projects.

Also receiving recognition were other efforts in which LACDMH was a key collaborator:

- 1) Top Ten Award
 - a. *Contractor Alert Reporting Database* led by the Auditor-Controller; and
 - b. *Enhancements to the GR SSIMAP Advocacy Program* led by Public Social Services.
- 2) Performance Measurement Award
 - a. *Coordinated Services Action Teams* led by the Children and Family Services.

The QPC will formally recognize the winners at the awards luncheon on October 17, 2012. In addition, the Board of Supervisors will acknowledge the Top Ten Award recipients on October 23, 2012.